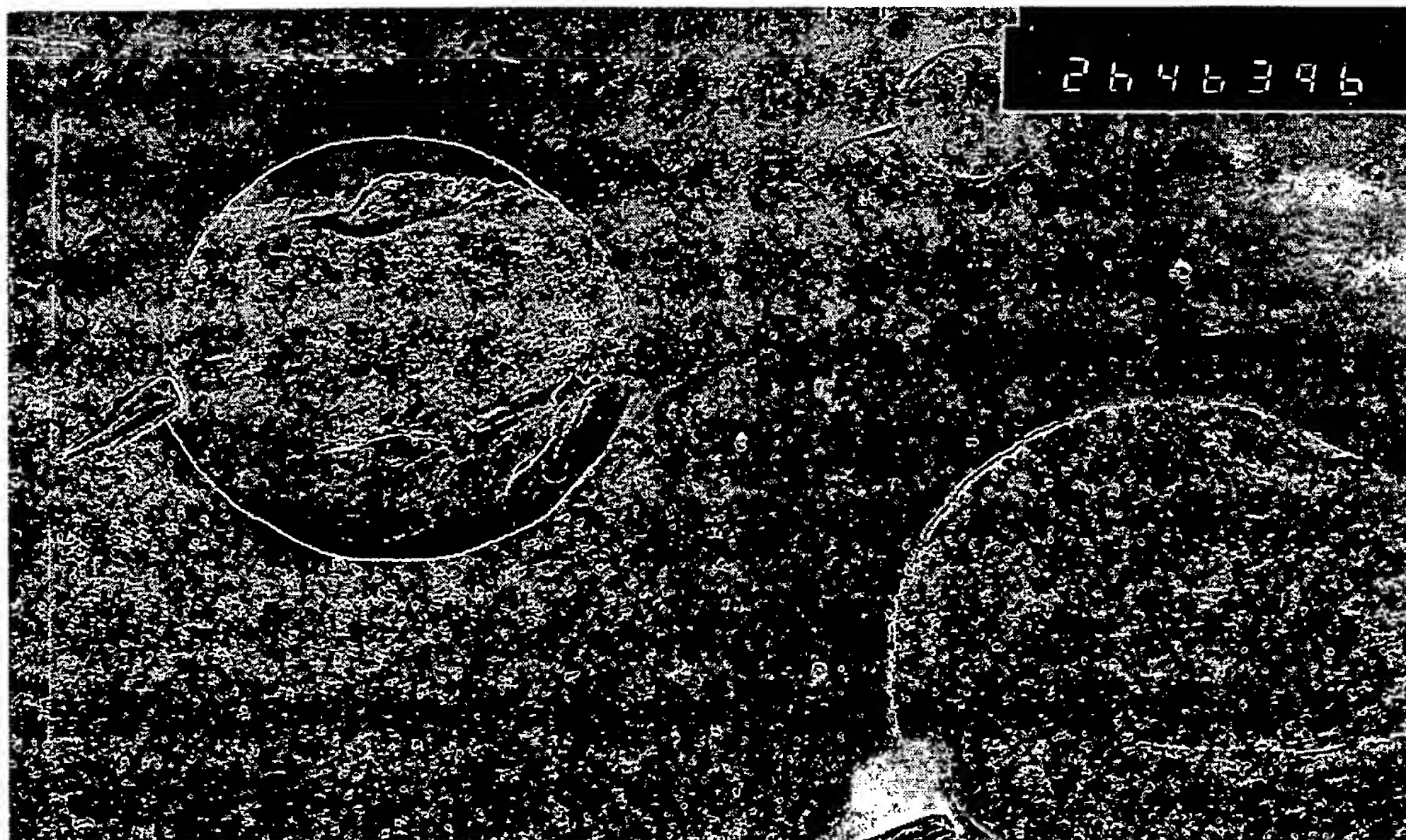


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claim 19 has been cancelled, and new claim 20 has been added. Claims 1-18 and 20 are pending.

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 29, 2010, Applicant elects Group I (claims 1-15) with traverse.

Applicant notes that this is a national phase application resulting from International Application No. PCT/EP/2004/006429. During examination of the PCT application by the International Searching Authority, it was determined that the pending claims (but for new claim 20) were fully compliant with the Unity of Invention requirement (PCT Rules 13.1 – 13.3). Under the PCT convention, national phase countries are required to examine the national application in compliance with the international examination. Furthermore, Applicant notes that all the pending claims incorporate the same technical feature (*i.e.*, *at least one branched non-ionic surfactant and at least one surfactant capable of forming liquid crystals in water*). Finally, as the polysaccharide combination in the prior art cited by the Examiner is not capable of forming liquid crystals, reference micrograph¹ presented below, it is not valid prior art for the purposes asserted by the Examiner. Therefore, there exists no basis for requiring a restriction requirement and the restriction is respectfully requested to be withdrawn.



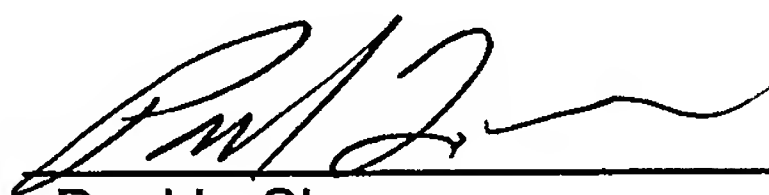
¹ Please note there is a sharp boundary between oil droplet and water phase with total absence of any form of structured surfactant phase.

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES DAY

By: 
Paul L. Sharer
Registration No. 36,004
Direct No. (202) 879-5481

Intellectual Property Group
51 Louisiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 879-3939 Telephone
(202) 626-1700 Facsimile

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